

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Rhode Island Department of Health

Draft Minutes of the Radiation Advisory Commission

Meeting of May 24, 2006

401 Cannon Building

The meeting of the Radiation Advisory Commission was called to order by Chairman Shearer in Room 401 of the Cannon Building on May 24, 2006 at 12:10 p.m. Present were Commissioners Roventine, Feole, Maisano, Newell, Perkins, Schatz, Spater, and Stevens. Also present were Mark Ridlen, as well as Marie Stoeckel, Jack Ferruolo, and Bill Dundulis of the Radiation Control Agency.

1. Minutes: Minutes from the last Commission meeting of February 26, 2004 were reviewed. Bill Roventine moved for approval, seconded by Ron Stevens. The minutes were approved.

2. Task Group on Regulations: Bill Roventine, Chairman, identified the members of the Task Group: Doug Shearer, Bill Dundulis, and Jack Ferruolo. Mr. Roventine reported that the Task Group has met nine times between May 2005 and May 2006 to review the proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations for the Control of Radiation. The proposed amendments are being made to maintain compatibility

with the regulations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Part 35. Mr. Roventine explained that the Task Group plans to meet one more time to resolve a date in Section C.8.

Copies of the regulations with proposed amendments and a summary of proposed changes were provided. Bill Dundulis reviewed each section to be amended and the rationale for each change, relating to consistency with the NRC. Mr. Dundulis explained that the Task Group shared a concern regarding the NRC requirements for training for radiation safety officers (Section C.8.62). Therefore, the Task Group set 29 April 2008 as the effective date because it is the latest date that will be compatible with the NRC, with the expectation of NRC clarification in the interim.

General discussion followed. Doug Shearer moved and Sharon Perkins seconded approval of the amendments as proposed, with the understanding that the Task Group will review Section C.8.73 with staff subject to refinement of a specific date. The proposed changes were approved.

The Radiation Control Program will review the proposed changes with the Department of Health legal counsel. The next step will be to schedule and hold a public hearing.

3. Planning for Radiological Emergencies: Marie Stoeckel explained that the Department of Health has been planning for radiological

emergencies in its role as technical advisor to the Governor. The RI Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA), which is responsible for the Ingestion Pathway Plan, is responsible for statewide planning. Ms. Stoeckel had invited Bob Warren, the new Director of RIEMA to this meeting. He was interested in attending but had a conflict. Sanford Schatz and Doug Shearer both expressed interest in learning more about plans for treating contaminated individuals and the specific skills necessary in dealing with mass casualties resulting from a dirty bomb or radiation accident.

There was general discussion about RIEMA and HEALTH roles. HEALTH has identified 10 districts with a specific hospital for each district. Jack Ferruolo explained that he is working with the Poison Control Center to make them aware of the technical resource for radiation exposure through Oak Ridge.

It was decided that an interim meeting would be set up with Bob Warren, Doug Shearer, and Bill Roventine. A report will be made to the full committee.

4. New Business: Sanford Schatz advised the Commission that he will be retiring in December and that this will be his last meeting with the Commission. He introduced Dr. Mark Ridlen, who was introduced at the beginning of the meeting, is a potential candidate for the Diagnostic Radiology category.

5. Next Meeting: To be scheduled.